



Foggy Bottom News

JANUARY 1986

Published for and by the citizens of Foggy Bottom

Volume 30, No. 4

HISTORIC "HILLTOP IN FOGGY BOTTOM"

What do the following places all have in common?

- Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson's choice for the location of the national capitol?
- Where President Washington wanted to put a National University?
- The site of the Marines' first barracks and first band concert in Washington?
- Location of the nation's first official observatory?
- The office and home of the "father of modern oceanography?"
- Where the moons of Mars were first discovered?

Give up? They are all the present Naval Medical Command, home of the old naval observatory. And at the January 27 FBA meeting Jan K. Herman, Historian, will give an illustrated talk on this "Hilltop in Foggy Bottom," recounting some of his research into this intriguing site and its relationship over the years with and to the surrounding Foggy Bottom area. The FBA meeting will be on Monday, January 27, at 8:00 p.m. in Pillsbury Hall of St. Paul's Church. All are welcome. Don't miss it.



MAYOR SPEAKS AT FBA MEETING

At the November 25 meeting of the Foggy Bottom Association, a near capacity crowd heard Mayor Marion Barry, Jr. defend his administration of the city and explain his stand on issues of particular concern to this community.

The Mayor said he wanted to "protect and stabilize" neighborhoods. While affirming his support for historic preservation, Barry cautioned that it was not a "panacea" for problems brought by development.

Repeating the assurance given to the community in May, 1985, the Mayor said that The George Washington University campus plan now being developed must be a "quality plan." He said he would have no problem using his office to ensure that this is the result. There were no specifics.

Turning to the Whitehurst Freeway, the Mayor described briefly the options he felt he had and why he had decided essentially to rehabilitate the central portion of the freeway. Stating that the question of a depressed roadway

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Meeting

Foggy Bottom Association

8:00 P.M.
JANUARY 27

Guest Speaker
Jan K. Herman

St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K Street, N.W.

ANC PRESENTS ANNUAL REPORT

ANC Summary of Problems

A. Zoning: Continuing erosion of the residential base is occurring under the constant pressure of developers to commercialize land currently zoned for residential use and development. The city's zoning regulations, which allow the conversion of residential units to medical clinic use, which allow medical clinics as a matter-of-right in residential zones, and which treat hotels as residential for purposes of FAR calculations, have been a major factor in the decline in the residential base in our neighborhood.

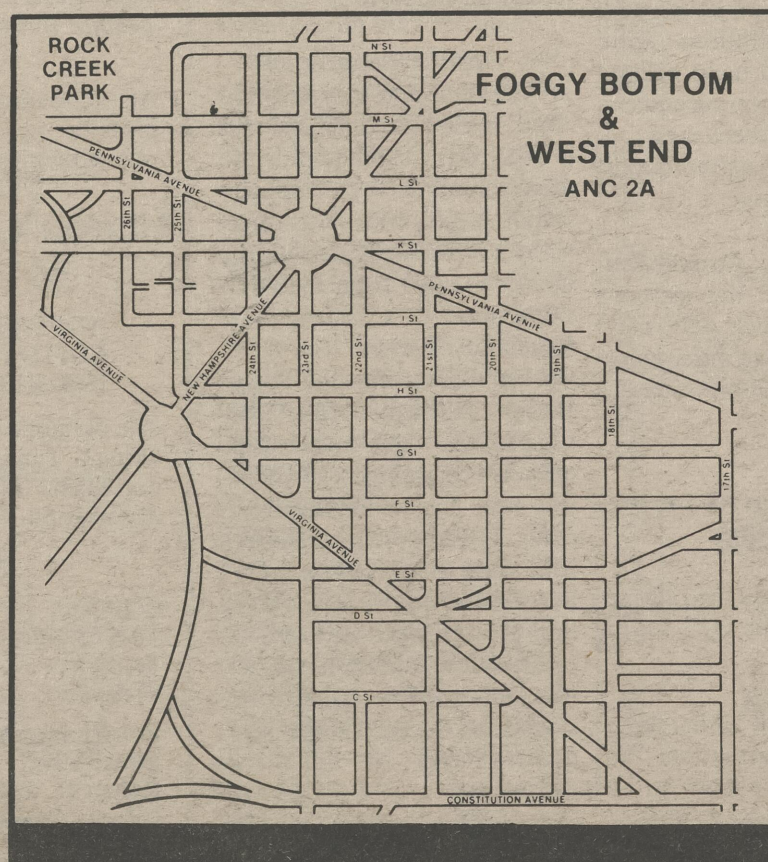
Although this ANC tries to be vigilant in determining that zoning regulations are respected by property owners, that effort is rendered virtually meaningless because of the city's general tolerance of zoning abuses and violations. In our experience, zoning regulations are not being enforced in any credible way.

B. Transportation: Vehicular traffic is an increasing problem in our neighborhood. This stems from commuters who travel in and through our area to reach downtown and the commercial developments in the West End, as well as the additional traffic generated by the hotel construction in the area. The Kennedy Center is now generating intolerable parking problems in the neighborhood during evening performances, with cars blocking alleys and driveways, blocking fire hydrants, parking on sidewalks, and the like; this is exacerbated by the city's complete lack of parking regulation enforcement during the early evening hours.

The east end of the Whitehurst Freeway (K Street between 24th and 26th Streets) is a particularly objectionable source of traffic and environmental problems. These problems are not limited to the two residential blocks of K Street or their vicinity, but affect all of the Foggy Bottom residential neighborhood because the access ramps at 25th and K Streets permit the spillover of through traffic into adjacent residential streets. It is also a dangerous barrier to pedestrians that divides the south and north areas of the neighborhood.

C. Historic Preservation: Concerted action has been taken during the past few years to survey the neighborhood, inform property owners about historic preservation advantages and disadvantages, and do the research neces-

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Annual Report

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sary to file historic preservation applications with the city. However, these efforts have been stymied by inaction on the part of the city's historic preservation office and review board. Lengthy hearing delays are still usual; it took 1½ years between the submission of the application in May 1984 and the September 1985 hearing on the Foggy Bottom Historic District, and a decision has not been reached at the time of this report (November). In the meantime, several important historic buildings have been lost. We know from contacts in other neighborhoods and from news reports that our experience is not unique. While the city delays, it is losing its history in a very practical sense.

D. Planning. We applaud the fact that the city has enacted a Comprehensive Plan and a Land Use Map; they must be followed, however, by detailed Ward Plans.

E. Crime: Crime continues to be a concern in our neighborhood, despite the generally good record in this part of the city. We believe in a more visible police presence through a return to uniformed foot patrols; the police simply cannot get to know the community (and vice versa) using only patrol cars and scooters. We are also concerned that the criminal justice system allows repeat-offenders to be released on bail so quickly, and that there is such a delay between arrest and trial.

F. D.C. Government Procedures: We have noted a disturbing trend for some D.C. Agencies to fail to consult with the ANC before taking action. The Department of Public Works has done this several times in the past year. Since this is occurring in our "activist" neighborhood, we imagine it is even more usual in less citizen-active neighborhoods.

Recommended Actions for the D.C. Government

A. Medical Clinics: The Zoning Commission should remove medical clinics as a permitted use in the R-4 and R-5 zones, and it should classify hotels as a commercial use in all respects.

B. Zoning Violations: Zoning enforcement should be revised to allow zoning inspectors to issue fines for zoning violations, similar to issuing a parking ticket. We believe the revenue generated would exceed the cost of the additional inspections.

C. Parking: Parking enforcement should be increased, and the fines for violations should be regularly reviewed and increased in all categories in which the number of violations increases from year to year. Special attractions, such as the Kennedy Center, should be targeted for enforcement at appropriate hours.

D. Historic Preservation: Strengthen historic preservation efforts in the city by maintaining adequate professional and administrative staff in the Historic Preservation Office, and by filling vacancies on the Historic Preservation Review Board promptly.

E. ANC Consultation: All D.C. agencies, including the Mayor's office, should be reminded of both the letter and spirit of the law that requires prior consultation with ANCs and giving great weight to their positions before taking action.

F. ANC Funding: Continue full funding for ANCs. ANC-2A is particularly active on behalf of its community, and our communications with other ANCs lead us to believe that many are maturing and expanding their effectiveness on behalf of their neighborhoods and the city at large.

G. ANCs & Corporation Counsel: Define the circumstances under which ANC may seek and receive assistance from the Corporation Counsel.

Recommendations for Improving ANC Operations

A. Grant ANCs the right to appeal cases to the D.C. Court of Appeals.

B. Increase the dollar limit on annual contributions an ANC may receive from an individual from \$100 to \$500 in recognition of the rapid infla-

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tion since the time the law was originally enacted and the cost of even the low-value business equipment persons may wish to donate.

FY85 Highlights of ANC-2A Activities

During Fiscal Year 1985, ANC-2A held 12 regular and public forum monthly meetings at various locations in the neighborhood. In addition, a number of special meetings were scheduled to deal with issues that needed immediate attention. A summary of ANC actions is regularly published in the *Foggy Bottom News* newspaper to inform residents who are unable to attend meetings. Historic preservation, transportation, land use and public safety continued to be of primary concern to the neighborhood and the ANC.

A. Historic Preservation — A Neighborhood Conservation Tool: Work was completed and a final report submitted to the architectural survey computerization project which was funded by a matching grant totaling almost \$13,000 from the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. The ANC worked closely with the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) on the project, which involved an extensive commitment of volunteer time by community residents. In addition to computerizing data on the area's architectural and historical resource, the project also included a preservation education component, designed to educate residents on the advantages and disadvantages of landmark designation and the use of preservation techniques in neighborhood conservation.

A major preservation accomplishment was the landmark designation of the Cooper Houses in the 2500 block of K Street N.W. by the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) and the Board's subsequent refusal to grant the owner a demolition permit for the houses. The landmark application for the Cooper Houses was co-sponsored by the ANC and the D.C. Preservation League.

The HPRB held a hearing in September on the Foggy Bottom Historic District application submitted jointly by the ANC and the FBA; as of the end of November the Board had not made its decision regarding designation of the area as a district.

An application was also submitted to the HPRB for a George Washington University Historic District. The application was based on an architectural survey of the area commissioned by the ANC, which is interested in protecting the existing low-scale, mixed-use character of the GW campus.

Concerned about the continuing erosion of the area's residential base as well as the potential loss of an architecturally significant building, the

ANC worked with neighborhood residents to prevent the demolition of the Governor Shepherd Apartment House at 2121 Virginia Avenue, N.W., submitting a landmark application for the Governor Shepherd and coordinating expert testimony on its behalf before the HPRB. When the application was unsuccessful, individual Commissioners filed an administrative appeal in District Court to prevent demolition. The appeal was denied and the Governor Shepherd was, unfortunately, demolished, to make way for an office building.

In order to provide for better coordination of preservation efforts, the ANC is considering the establishment of an ad hoc committee to review landmark and historic district applications before submitting them to the HPRB. The committee would make sure that the applications fully document the significance of the community's architectural resources.

B. Transportation: Alleviating Traffic Congestion and Assuring Public Safety: The ANC continues to view traffic congestion and the impact of the Whitehurst Freeway as major

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Foggy Bottom News

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problems. The ANC was represented on the steering committee set up by the Mayor to redesign the Freeway and endorsed a design proposed by the Georgetown Business and Professional Association which would have put the freeway at ground level along most of the length of the Georgetown waterfront, with access to local streets and provision for through traffic on lanes below grade.

Working closely with the FBA, the ANC reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement on the Key Bridge rehabilitation project and succeeded in eliminating a proposed ramp which would have unnecessarily funneled additional traffic into Foggy Bottom. The ANC (in the person of Commissioner Tyler) is also represented on the Mayor's committee to study the traffic problem at the west end of the Whitehurst Freeway. The ANC has persuaded the Mayor to set up a similar committee for the east end, since his chosen final design for Whitehurst Freeway modifications did nothing to alleviate the traffic problems in Foggy Bottom.

Also of concern to the ANC is the safety of pedestrians using the tunnel at 26th and K Streets, N.W. and the pedestrian crossing at 25th and K Streets, N.W. The ANC, in letters to the Department of Public Works, the Police Department, and the Mayor, has advocated the closing of the tunnel or, at the very least, increased efforts on the part of the city to make the tunnel safe, clean and more usable. Lengthening of the signal light at 25th and K Streets was one of several ANC suggestions for

increasing pedestrian safety at that dangerous pedestrian crossing.

C. Land Use/Zoning: Retaining Residential Base: Involvement of the ANC in the area of land use covered a broad range of issues, from extensive comments on the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan to review and comments upon individual rezoning requests. The ANC was pleased to have its suggested changes to the Land Use Map (agreed upon after extensive consultation with other ANC's and citizens' groups in Ward 2) adopted by the City Council. In another important land use matter, the ANC is planning to take an active role in the development of an updated Master Plan for the George Washington University Campus; the Plan must be submitted to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) by the end of December, 1985. In accordance with an ANC request the BZA has placed a moratorium on all major construction on the GW campus until the new Campus Master Plan is approved.

ANC-2A's most immediate concern in zoning cases is whether the proposed change in zoning will strengthen — or further erode — the residential base of the community. The ANC opposed the application for a hotel/apartment building in the 2100 block of L Street N.W. because of the requested rezoning from residential to commercial. In addition, the hotel is to be located in an area which already has a large number of hotels and the "apartment" component of the devel-

Watch for Illegal Solicitation for Seniors

At the last Foggy Bottom Association meeting, the police warned us about an illegal solicitor in our area. A group calling itself Senior Citizens of Today and Tomorrow Inc., headed by "Rev." Raymond Wilson, Jr., is collecting money for various senior citizen causes. We were informed that Wilson is on parole, and no longer has a license to solicit funds for charity. In addition, the police advised that the causes are non-existent and the whole operation is fraudulent.

opment plan does not provide a guarantee of long-term residential use.

The ANC also strongly opposed a speculative chancery development at 24th and Pennsylvania Avenue that would replace residential use in an historic landmark square. (The Board of Zoning Adjustment concurred with the ANC's opposition.)

In two other cases (1117 New Hampshire Avenue N.W. and 2029 K Street N.W.) the ANC supported rezoning applications because it felt that the projects would strengthen the area's residential base and contribute to neighborhood revitalization. In the first case, a proposed ten story condominium will provide additional housing and the owner has agreed to a covenant limiting the building to residential use. In the K Street project, the development plan calls for renovation and expansion of an existing office building and the addition of retail uses on the first floor.

The ANC worked closely with a tenant association in opposing George Washington University's application for expansion of the H.B. Burns Medical Building on Eye Street N.W. The ANC does not oppose use of the vacant site in question for a medical facility; our opposition to the project is based on the proposed addition's excessive size and height and its potentially adverse impact (in terms of loss of light and air) on the residents in the adjacent President Condominium. The ANC views this case as an important test of the Board of Zoning Adjustment's willingness to protect residential in-holdings on campus and in other developing areas. Both the ANC and the President Condominium Association were pleased at the BZA's initial rejection of the GW plan,

although an additional hearing has been scheduled on proposed revisions to the plan.

Other Areas of Concern:

The ANC commented upon several applications before the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC) and worked with residents of the area to alleviate their concerns regarding these applications. In a case involving an application submitted by the Bristol Hotel, the ANC joined with neighborhood residents to work out an agreement under which the hotel agreed (among other things) to pay for damages to adjoining buildings caused by renovation of the hotel in return for neighborhood support for their ABC application.

To ensure a fair and consistent review of all ABC applications, the ANC is working with the FBA to set up an ad hoc

committee composed of community representatives to develop criteria for reviewing applications.

Although the ANC does not usually make many grants, it is always willing to consider requests for financial assistance from organizations whose programs contribute to the vitality of the community. In the last year, the ANC made matching grants to the Library Theatre for their drama program at the West End Branch Library; to Iona House to help fund the publication "Resources for Older Residents"; to the D.C. Preservation League for a brochure on the city's preservation program; to Stevens Elementary School for its Reading-Is-Fundamental Program; and to the Rent Control Referendum Committee, for public education efforts.

Help Keep Foggy Bottom Beautiful — and Safe!

To help keep Foggy Bottom clean and beautiful, remember to put your trash out for pick-up on the morning of the pick-up day, NOT BEFORE. Putting it out before the pick-up day is UGLY, UNSANITARY and probably UNHEALTHY. Also, help by making it a point to sweep the pavement in front of your residence at least once a week; include the gutter in your sweeping. You will be pleased at how much better you will feel and amazed at how much better FB will look.

And — when it snows — remember it is each resident's re-

sponsibility to keep the sidewalk clear; it should be safe for all passers-by but especially for newspaper and UPS-type delivery people, for postman Mike and his colleagues, and for emergencies as well. [I recall an instance of a neighbor having a fire in his home, and his steps were so caked with ice that the firefighters almost could not make up the stairs! Not smart, was it?] If you don't have a shovel yourself, ask around; many of your neighbors do have one they'd be glad to lend.

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Crimewatch

By Bob Alcorn

As we turn the New Year, I can finally compliment my neighbors on the wonderful response to Neighborhood Watch which they have given during the past 30 to 40 days. It is remarkable to me to hear numbers of people reporting crime, or trends in crime, or possible crimes which are happening all over the Bottom. People are more aware; are noticing suspicious persons; are watching the homes of people who are away; and are reporting crimes which have happened or are happening at the very time they are calling and for

this I am very thankful. We can check out each one of these "happenings" and report back to you.

First of all, we have had reports of suspicious persons being seen in and around the Columbia Plaza group of apartments. These persons have been seen looking into windows and over walls, not only by people inside the buildings but also by passersby and reported. Anybody who lives on the first floor of a building could have the same problem so do report it if you see anything out of the ordinary.

Along with this and directly associated, we have had a number of reports of suspicious people and indeed of robberies in parking lots in the same part of the Bottom, cries for help during the early morning hours, and people being robbed on the streets. The last type I have yet to prove but, from the number of calls, they must have happened as the calls each reported a different area.

There have been a number of reports of people losing wallets and purses in the subway stations; one person bumps

another and when the person bumped tries to regain footing has a purse grabbed by an alert second person. Do watch out. Do be careful if you use the subway particularly when your hands are full. It is very easy for a thief to vanish into a crowd.

People are still allowing strangers to enter buildings behind them without checking to see if the person entering has a reason to be there. In two or three cases, they have found out too late why the person was there. People are still opening doors for "inspectors" without realizing that a building or elevator inspector would report to the resident manager. And very few if any work a shift after 9:00 p.m. But some of you still think that the story told is one that is very plausible and allow the person not only to enter the building but also into apartments themselves. Please be more careful.

Several people have come to me to ask about starting small patrols of local residents who will walk about the Foggy Bottom area during the dusk and early evening hours watching out for suspicious people. This is a very good idea and right after the holidays we hope to start a number of these. I am hoping for help from our police to educate the walkers to what they must look for. Our friends at Potomac Overlook were the first to think of the patrols. Thank you all over there.

You ladies are watching your purses at the stores now; I've only had one report of a wallet or purse stolen from a cart since I last wrote. It makes me feel that some of our people are reading the column at least.

I am finding bunches of keys again. Some of them bear the name and address of the owner. What an invitation for a robbery! Everything is set up for the thief. Don't list this vital information on your key ring;

what an invitation you are giving! The same applies to car keys; putting your license number on them only leads a thief to look for the car and take it out for a spin.

My hat is also off to those ladies of the neighborhood who find doors open or unlocked and report them to resident managers and me or to the owners of the houses where they find the problem. One house recently had a back door left open for a cat. Unfortunately, the owner forgot the open door and went off to work leaving the door, while it did have a chain on, partially open. Tsk Tsk.

Lastly, I should like to thank those mothers walking children in the area who reported seeing rats in and around shubbery on 25th and 26th Street. It was very easy to tell the owners and the problem could be taken care of quickly. No one likes rats in our area but with all the building they do exist. In many cases, people do not know rats have moved into their area until they are seen and those mothers gave us a headstart on the problem.

Wishing you all well in 1986, looking forward to more and more Watch signs going up, and hoping that I will see all of you at the next Foggy Bottom and ANC meetings. I await your calls and your letters. Those letters are tangible proof of your interest. Thank You!!

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Beautification Notes

by Mary E. Healy

Foggy Bottom comes alive at Christmas time with assorted beauty. Decorated Christmas trees in the lobbies of the apartment buildings, office buildings and hotels seem to reach out to each individual, as he passes by, to say "Have a Happy Holiday"; the stars and crosses on the top floors of buildings under construction seem to send out a special spiritual message (particularly on a cold clear night); and church bells seem to have a different tone — warmer and more inviting.

Add to this the beauty of the twinkling Tivoli lights on the trees at 25th and Va. Ave. (Juarez Circle), provided each year through the good graces of the National Capital Area Parks. And, this year, WMATA joined the Park Service and lighted two trees at its support facility (the round structure at 27th & Va. Ave.). And, of course, the lovely year-round lights in the trees of the River Inn continued to cast their friendly glow down an otherwise rather dark street. Joining these year-round lights in the trees were those of the Kennedy Center which seemed to take on a particular glow this year — as did the lighting on the lovely Embassy of Saudi Arabia. Incidentally the lighting of the Saudi building provides a much appreciated security to those of us who walk to the Kennedy Center. Add to all this the

lighting of the landscaping at the FB/GWU METRO Mall contributed by WU and you have an area all aglow with beauty and spirit.

The traditional Christmas Tree Lighting, which Columbia Hospital for Women Medical Center provides for the community each year, was a success again this year — with both a Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus arriving at the Hospital in an "old grey mare" drawn carriage with bells jingling and lots of HO HO HOs sounding throughout the neighborhood; community residents, visitors and people on their way home from work all joined in the spirit and sent the happy couple on their merry way. The CHW decorated and lighted Christmas Tree added a very pleasant focal point to 25th & Pa. Ave., as did the trees in the picture windows of St. Mary's Court for 24th Street.

This year the residents of the Potomac Plaza Cooperative Apartments, at their Annual Christmas Party, did something special to add to the spirit of Christmas and the beauty of the neighborhood — they planted nine new flowering trees on their front lawn in memory of a long-time employee, Mary Olsen, recently departed; the dogwoods and pear trees should be beautiful in the spring.

To those mentioned here and all others who contributed to the beauty of Foggy Bottom during this Christmas season, we who enjoyed your efforts so much, say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

Library News

The Friends of the West End Branch Library wish to report that we had a very successful year fundwise. We were able to raise the \$500.00 necessary to arrange the Library Theatre performances for the children this past fall. We have nearly an additional \$100.00 to give to Mr. Horrell to buy those special books we all enjoy. We thank all of you for your help and wish to remind you to keep borrowing books. The library is our friend as well and Mr. Horrell enjoys seeing the Branch used more. Stop in on your way home from work on Monday or Wednesday nights and look at the new books. You may find something of interest. Mr. Horrell buys to suit the needs of the total borrowing public so once in a while you may not see a particular book you want. Chances are it is available at the main library and Mr. Horrell can arrange for it to be sent out to West End. Ask him!!

Tax Assistance at Main Library

Federal tax assistance will be available to the public through April 13 on Saturdays 1-5 p.m. and Sundays 1:30-4:30 p.m. This free service is provided by VITA and the D.C. Public Library in the Lobby of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library (901 G Street, N.W.). For more information, call 727-1221.

Library Sponsors Rare Needlepoint Exhibit

In celebration of Black History Month, the Black Studies Division of the D.C. Public Library is sponsoring an exhibit of rare needlepoint. The embroidery by Clement A. Wells, Jr. depicts blacks who have been commemorated on U.S. postage stamps or represented in portraits by Afro-American artists. Subjects include Paul Dunbar, Ella Fitzgerald, Martin Luther King, Harriet Tubman and Booker T. Washington. The display will be in the G Street Window of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library (901 G Street, N.W.) throughout February 1986.

Former Resident Holmes Alexander Dies

Holmes Alexander, who formerly lived in the 900 block of 25th Street, died December 5 in Baltimore, Maryland. Alexander, who was 79, was a newspaper columnist whose work appeared in the *Washington Star* and other papers. He was also the author of several books, including "Between the Stirrup and the Ground," concerning his days as a steeplechase rider. His first wife, Mary Barksdale Alexander, died in 1978; he is survived by his wife Rosalind, of Lutherville, Maryland, three children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles	673-6993	Motor Vehicle Temporary Plates	727-5518
Air Pollution	767-7370	Parking Enforcement	727-9208
Animal Control	576-6665	Parking Regulations	727-9208
Dead Animal Pick-up	727-4825	Parking Resident Permit	727-5409
Wash Animal Rescue L.	726-2556	Parking Tickets	727-5000
Board of Elections	727-2534	Police Emergency - Crime in progress	911
Booted Vehicles	727-5000	Police - To report a crime that has happened but is not in progress	727-4326
Cong. Delegate Fauntroy	275-0171	FBA Neighborhood Watch	337-5022
Consumer Hotline	727-7080	Police - Second District	282-0070
Councilmember Wilson's Office	724-8058	Police - Second District Community Relations	282-0050
Dog Tags		Pothole Repair	767-8527
New	727-7089	Recreation - Public Information	673-7660
Renewal	727-7085	Sidewalk Repair	767-8527
Driver's License	727-6680	Street Cleaning	727-4823
Driver's Hearings	727-6761	Streetlight Repair (Day)	727-5631
Driver's Road Test	727-6580	Streetlight Repair (Night)	833-7500
Fire Department - Non-Emergency	462-1762	Taxicab Information and Complaints	727-5401
Fire Emergency	911	Towed Vehicle	727-5000
Food Inspection	727-7251	Traffic Sign Repair	727-5756
Garbage Removal	727-4825	Traffic Signals	727-5876
Health Inspection	727-7250	Trash Removal	727-4825
Historic Preservation	727-7360	Tree Maintenance	767-8532
Housing Code Violations	727-7709	Water & Sewage Bills	727-5240
Impounded Vehicles	727-5000	Water & Sewage Emergency	673-6600
Leaf Collection	727-4825	Water Meter Reading	727-5240
Litter Control	727-4825		
Lot & Square Information	727-7050		
Mayor Barry's Office	727-6319		
Motor Vehicle Info	727-6680		
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In the
State Plaza Hotel

(Continued from page 1)

was "closed," Barry added that the city would help "in some way" with a pedestrian crossing.

On other issues of concern to residents of the Foggy Bottom/West End area, the Mayor said that the ward plans now just beginning to be developed could not be finished by the March deadline established by the City Council. He thought the work could not be finished until September. Asked about his previous commitment to do something to address the proliferation of medical clinics, the Mayor was unaware that this problem — another of those issues discussed with him in May of last year — had not been addressed, much less resolved. He promised to look into the matter, again.

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HIGHLIGHTS ANC-2A Monthly Meeting Dec. 10, 1985 St. Mary's Court

The Commissioners voted to write the Department of Public Works to express support for the Department's rule banning buses from certain streets in the city; both the ANC and the Foggy Bottom Association were active in efforts to get the bus ban rule put into effect.

A resolution was passed opposing a proposal by the CSX Corporation to deliver coal by truck along K Street to the GSA heating plant in Georgetown (rather than delivering it by means of a rail spur, as is currently done). The Resolution will be sent to the Mayor and the Director of the Department of Public Works, among others.

The resolution also objected to the disregard the Director of Public Works gives to the problem of trucks passing through

residential Foggy Bottom; reminds the Mayor of the long history of Foggy Bottom requests for relief from problems arising from the truck traffic along the Whitehurst Freeway; and requests that the Mayor formulate some effective method of relief from these problems without further delay.

It was announced that a BZA decision is pending on an application to construct a hotel in the 2100 block of L Street. The ANC has opposed the application.

It was reported that the owners of the property at 24th and Pennsylvania Avenue NW are planning to appeal BZA rejection of their application to build a chancery on the site.

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to develop criteria for ANC review of ABC applications reported on the Committee's first meeting, at which it was decided that the Committee would consider changes in ABC procedures as well as guidelines for ANC review of applications.

Letter to Gilpin Reiterates Foggy Bottom/West End Stance on Traffic

This letter was written following the first meeting of the Lower K Street East End Committee.

15 November 1985

Mr. C. Bernard Gilpin
Director
Office of Policy and Planning
Department of Public Works
415 12th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Gilpin:

We're pleased that discussions of your Lower K Street East End Committee are under way, and we look forward to substantive development.

Since you implied several times at the committee meeting on November 7th that you are still not clear about the needs and desires of the Foggy Bottom/West End community, we want to reiterate two main points of many statements about traffic impacts the ANC has repeatedly placed on the public record in recent years as elected representatives of the neighborhood.

This record includes ANC resolutions, ANC letters to the Mayor and various officials of the Department of Public Works, petitions from residents transmitted through the ANC, and extensive ANC participation in the reviews of the Whitehurst Freeway Corridor Modification Study Committee and the public hearings that followed. Your files must

be full of this material from Foggy Bottom, but we will be pleased to provide additional copies if you wish.

(1) You may call the current working committee anything you like, and say that it has nothing to do with Whitehurst Freeway decisions, but in fact it has everything to do with Whitehurst Freeway traffic. That is because the Whitehurst as currently configured is the most objectionable and visible generator of adverse traffic and environmental conditions in the neighborhood. We are confident that if the D.C. government had seriously studied and addressed the impact of the Whitehurst Freeway at the east end in Foggy Bottom as part of the modification process, the current committee would not be in existence. The Mayor's commitment to neighborhood leaders to take action, made last May, is both welcome and encouraging, and we're looking forward to it. Having gone through the lengthy process of the Whitehurst modification study without improvements, we are now facing the prospect of even greater traffic flows. You will understand that there is little patience left in Foggy Bottom in its quest for relief.

The ANC's position on a solution is clear: the separation of through and local traffic on K Street between Washington Circle and 27th Street — a separation that is common practice in many cities throughout the world to preserve neighborhoods and enhance the quality and vitality of urban life. As a general principle, this can be applied to other areas of the neighborhood as well. The specific means of separation needs to be determined on the basis of traffic and environmental analysis based on reliable data, and that brings us to the other major point.

(2) We insist upon having reliable data before recommending or seriously considering specific design alternatives, new traffic flow patterns, and the like. We believe it is simply irresponsible to proceed in any other manner, because we cannot make a rational choice among the advantages and disadvantages of one proposal versus another. From your comments at the committee meeting, it is our understanding that you agree these data are needed. When they are in hand, your traffic experts will be able to devise plans for relief, and the ANC will be able to work with you most productively.

For ANC2A,

Maria Tyler Geoffrey E. Stamm
Chair, Transportation Chairman
Committee

Next ANC Meeting

February 11, 1986

7:30 p.m.

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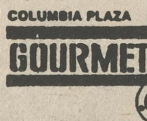
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Robert C. Brewster

Three separate but closely inter-related processes important to our community are under way. All concern issues in which the community in general and numerous individuals specifically have been or are deeply involved. They are: (1) development of the Ward 2 plan; (2) consultations on The George Washington University campus plan; and (3) the East End Committee. The outcome of these simultaneously ongoing processes will impact on the Foggy Bottom/West End area for a long time to come. We need not only to understand what is going on but to participate individually ourselves when we can as we participate collectively through the ANC and the FBA. This column reports on the status of these three processes as of mid-January.

CAC and Ward 2 Plan

The Ward 2 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was appointed by the Mayor last November and held its first organizational meeting on December 3. Its purpose is to assist the D.C. Office of Planning in preparing a 10- to 15-year plan for Ward 2. Subjects to be considered by the CAC include transportation, urban design, land use, and economic development. Although the precise use to which the plan will be put remains to be decided, it is obvious that it will have an important bearing on what is to occur in our area. This city-wide planning exercise has been slow to get under way for reasons which it would serve little purpose in going into here. (The "State of the Ward" document for Ward 2, for example, as of mid-January has yet to be distributed, yet it should be the starting point for the CAC's efforts.) Meetings of the Ward 2 CAC are now scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on

January 14, February 11, and March 11. They will be held at the Office of Planning, 420 Seventh Street, N.W., fourth floor. The public is invited.

GWU Campus Plan

Meetings on the draft campus plan for The George Washington University began on December 3 and continued on December 12 and January 7. Representatives of the ANC, FBA, and the D.C. Office of Planning are participating along with GWU officials and consultants. Here, again, the process is much delayed. GWU has been under a Board of Zoning Adjustment requirement to present its plan, already late, by December 31, 1985. This was manifestly impossible with consultation with the community and the Office of Planning having begun only on December 3. A further delay, until March 31, 1986, has now been requested by the University and supported by the FBA, ANC, and Office of Planning. A series of further meetings will be scheduled. At this juncture it is not possible to make any prognosis about the results of this process.

East End Committee and Traffic

The Mayor's East End Committee to consider traffic and related problems in the Foggy Bottom/West End area has had only one meeting (November, 1985) but a second is scheduled for January. The November meeting provided no reliable indicators of what, if anything, will be the outcome of this group's endeavours. Certainly the pace of meetings is not particularly auspicious. The community has made its objectives clear, most recently in an excellent letter from the ANC, which is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Our Watergate Safeway

By Mary E. Healy

Beautification — different type but beautification just the same. I understand the long awaited rehabilitation of the Watergate Safeway Store will start very soon with, we hope, no interruption to service, just vast improvements in appearance and efficiency of the store. Safeway manager Sam Nieman and all his employees have been positive geniuses working with the physical problems of the store. When it is rehabilitated they will have all earned a seat in heaven (not too soon we hope). From what I hear about the rehabilitation, I can't wait to see the new Produce Department and the new Freezer Section and Dairy Area. Let's all continue to do our shopping at the Safeway and to bear with any unforeseen problems which may arise. Keep in mind: it will be wonderful when the rehabilitation is completed (don't push me for a "when" date; just think soon).

Landgraf Named a Commissioner on Aging

John L. Landgraf, long-time Foggy Bottom resident and former FBA president, was recently named to a three-year term on the Commission on Aging. Nominated by Mayor Barry and confirmed by the City Council, Landgraf replaces former commissioner Robert C. Brewster. Landgraf is one of two Ward 2 members of a Commission which has 15 members. Established by law in 1975, the Commission advises the Mayor, the Director of the Office of Aging, the Council, and the public concerning the views and needs of the aged in the District of Columbia. Some of its specific duties are to serve as advocate for older persons; report annually to the Mayor, the Council, and the Office on Aging on the needs of the aging; review and comment on the District's annual plan for the aging; and to provide a continuing review of the activities of the Office on Aging.

Resources for Older Residents

The 1985-86 edition of *Resources for Older Residents* is now available, free, from Iona House, the private, non-profit senior service center which serves the Foggy Bottom/West End along with several other areas. The new directory, the publication of which was assisted by a generous grant from ANC2A, lists valuable information for older citizens in north-west Washington. It answers questions about consumer protection, counseling and guidance, employment opportunities, financial assistance, housing, recreation, transportation, and much, much more. Pick up a copy for yourself and/or an older friend.

Resources for Older Residents is available at the West End Branch Library or directly from Iona House, 4200 Butterworth Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016. Mail requests to Iona House should include 56¢ in postage, and, if possible, an address label.

Service to be Held for "The Admiral"

In November we received word of the death of Roland Murphy Bennett, known to many in the area as "the Admiral," one of the homeless persons often seen in the neighborhood.

A special burial service at Arlington Cemetery is planned for Friday, February 7, 1986, at 2:00 p.m. Following that service, the Coalition for the Homeless will hold a rally at 25th & Virginia Avenue at 3:00 p.m. Local homeless advocates and speakers are expected, including guest speaker Dr. E. Fuller Torrey, author of "Surviving Schizophrenia." For more information call 328-1184.

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Join The Foggy Bottom Association

We invite you to renew membership in or join The Foggy Bottom Association, the active civic organization in the Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhood. Annual dues are \$5.00 per person.

The Foggy Bottom Association:

- publishes *The Foggy Bottom News*, a monthly newspaper whose 5,000 copies help keep the community up to date.
- is actively involved in community issues — zoning problems, historic preservation, the bus ban, the Whitehurst Freeway, and crime prevention.
- holds monthly meetings and occasional special events to hear speakers of interest, discuss issues, and foster fellowship within the community.

- works closely with the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and interested city officials to maintain and improve the Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhood.

We need your continued support — through membership, through contribution, and through participation — in order to continue and expand our efforts to make our area a better place in which to live.

Please fill out the membership card below, detach it and send it together with your \$5.00 dues and any tax-free contribution you may care to make, to Richard Price, 2555 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Your membership card will be sent to you.

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